

**OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
CALIFORNIA INPATIENT DATA REPORTING MANUAL,
MEDICAL INFORMATION REPORTING FOR CALIFORNIA, FIFTH EDITION**

ABSTRACT RECORD NUMBER (Optional)

DISCUSSION

Specifications for reporting this data element with the Record Entry Form for online web entry of individual records or online data file transmission for discharges occurring on or after January 1, 2006:

17. ABSTRACT RECORD NUMBER (Optional)											

In order to identify a particular patient's record from all others in the reporting facility, a unique code consisting of not more than 12 alphanumeric characters may be reported. The abstract record number is optional.

When the abstract record number is reported, it:

- May be used by OSHPD and reporting hospital to identify specific records for correction and outcome studies.
- Will be deleted prior to release of public data.
- May be the medical record number.
- May include hyphens or slashes. Other special characters (e.g., period, comma, and apostrophe) must not be included.
- Should be reported from the left-most position of the field. Do not fill blank spaces with zeroes.